

SINGAPORE

Flatler Homes



Perfect Palettes

Start the year on a bright note by adding vibrant accents, fun shapes and cosy textures to your home





A New Thread

Narrative-driven concepts, coupled with a nurturing spirit and a passion for nature guide the popular colour and fabric choices for home interiors—take a cue from these decor trends in the year ahead *By Michele Koh Morollo*





This page, clockwise from top left: Catch a Glimpse, a cotton and polyester-blend textile with a textured finish from Jab Anstoetz, available at P5; Taiga fabric from the Nobilis Icones Spring 2022 collection, available at Cetec; the Igloo fabric from Nobilis is a pure wool velvet that is also fire-resistant; Hong Kong-based designer Iman El Zeky employs colour-blocked blue tones to soothing effect in a bedroom; this colour-blocked bathroom by Hong Kong design firm Lim + Lu matches a speckled terrazzo finish with a warm terracotta hue

Opposite page: The Kvadrat Steelcut collection comprises textiles in vibrant hues created in collaboration with colour adviser Giulio Ridolfo

As the world slowly emerges from its post-pandemic hibernation, we'll see more soft and soothing colours being used in home interiors. Gentle colours inspired by nature and a spirit of nurturance will find their way into more abodes, coupled with a heightened sense of environmental consciousness that will guide our fabric choices.

There will be a shift in focus from what's in vogue to what feels right. In 2023, homeowners and designers will break free from convention, moving away from the typical pre-pandemic leanings towards minimalism to embrace warmer colours and materials that allow them to truly express their unique personalities, tastes and lifestyles. This means playing around with darker palettes and denser fabrics, and exploring all the possibilities of different texture and colour combinations. Here, we list these and more notable trends to watch for your next renovation.

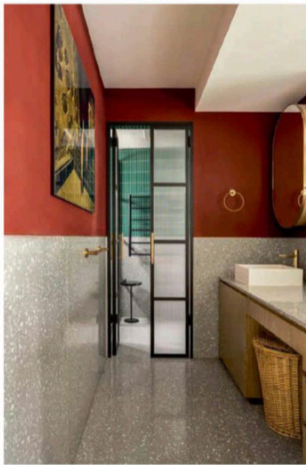
1. MATERIAL: HEAVY FABRICS

Thicker, heavier fabrics will become more popular—when applied to wall panels and curtains, these options can also improve acoustic performance in a room. Kvadrat's new Steelcut collection is one such notable range; it features an innovative three-dimensional construction by textile designer Frans Dijkmeijer that is durable and expresses the nuances of the hues picked by colour adviser Giulio Ridolfo.

Winnie Heimgartner-Wong, managing director of upholstery purveyor Cetec, suggests using

boucle or chenille for upholstery, and wool or gingham for Roman blinds. "The fluffier look and feel of denser fabrics can create a cosy, homely atmosphere that encourages relaxation and nesting at home," she says.

The handmade finish of such heavier fabrics makes them desirable, too. "Eye-catching fabrics like Catch a Glimpse from Jab Anstoetz feature an authentic 'handmade' look that plays with different natural textures and yarns," says Eiko Poertner, vice-president for international contract division at Jab Anstoetz.



2. STYLE: COLOUR BLOCKING

Forget about playing it safe: 2023 is all about going bold with brighter hues. Hong Kong-based interior designer Iman El Zeky recommends giving colour blocking a try: it's essentially about using contrasting but complementary colours to set a mood. "Using blocks of colours on walls or surfaces is a fabulous way to bring energy to a space."

El Zeky suggests using your favourite hue as the main colour, then selecting shades that contrast yet harmonise with that primary shade. "The complementary colours can be introduced to the interiors in the form of painted walls, or in less obvious ways such as with a decorative rug, a cushion or a throw. You can really transform a space by painting your ceiling as part of a colour block concept," she says.

